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528 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 DEC 2000

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J. Antis

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Akito Nishimura et al  
Serial No. : To Be Assigned  
Filed : December 20, 2000  
For : OPTICAL FERRULE AND METHOD OF MOLDING  
THE SAME, AND OPTICAL CONNECTOR USING THE  
SAME  
Group Art Unit : N/A  
Examiner : N/A

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December 19, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

SIR:

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56 and § 1.97(b), Applicants wish to call  
the attention of the Examiner to the references listed below.

Japanese No. 11-72651

Japanese No. 7-56054

Japanese No. 63-16112

Japanese No. 4-77419

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Copies of these references are submitted herewith along with Form PTO-1449.

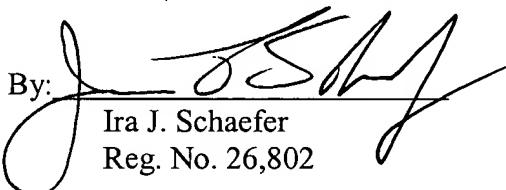
The relevance of the listed references is as follows.

Each of the references were cited in the Search Report issued by the Japanese Patent Office. A copy of this Search Report is enclosed. For the Examiner's information, the destination "X" on the Search Report is translated to mean the document is "particularly relevant if taken alone"; "Y" means "particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category"; "A" means "technological background"; "O" means "non-written disclosure"; "P" means "intermediate document"; "T" means "theory or principle underlying the invention"; "E" means "earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date"; "D" means "document cited in the application"; and "L" means "document cited for other reasons".

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

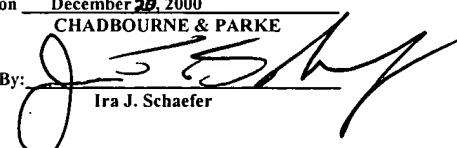
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231  
on December 20, 2000

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